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PATENT APPLICATION  
10/696,326

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Xun Zhang, et al.

Serial No.:

10/696,326

Date Filed:

October 29, 2003

Group Art Unit:

1756

Examiner:

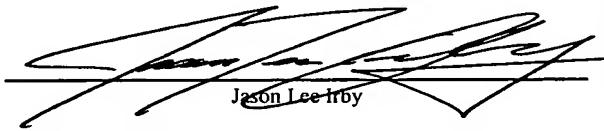
Rosasco, Stephen D.

Title:

**PHOTOMASK ASSEMBLY AND METHOD  
FOR PROTECTING THE SAME FROM  
CONTAMINANTS GENERATED DURING  
A LITHOGRAPHY PROCESS**

**MAIL STOP – AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV628933817US addressed to: Mail Stop – Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 2, 2005.



Jason Lee Irby

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Office Action mailed June 2, 2005, Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks set forth below and request favorable action thereon.

Although the claims have not been amended, a **Listing of the Claims** for the Examiner's convenience begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.